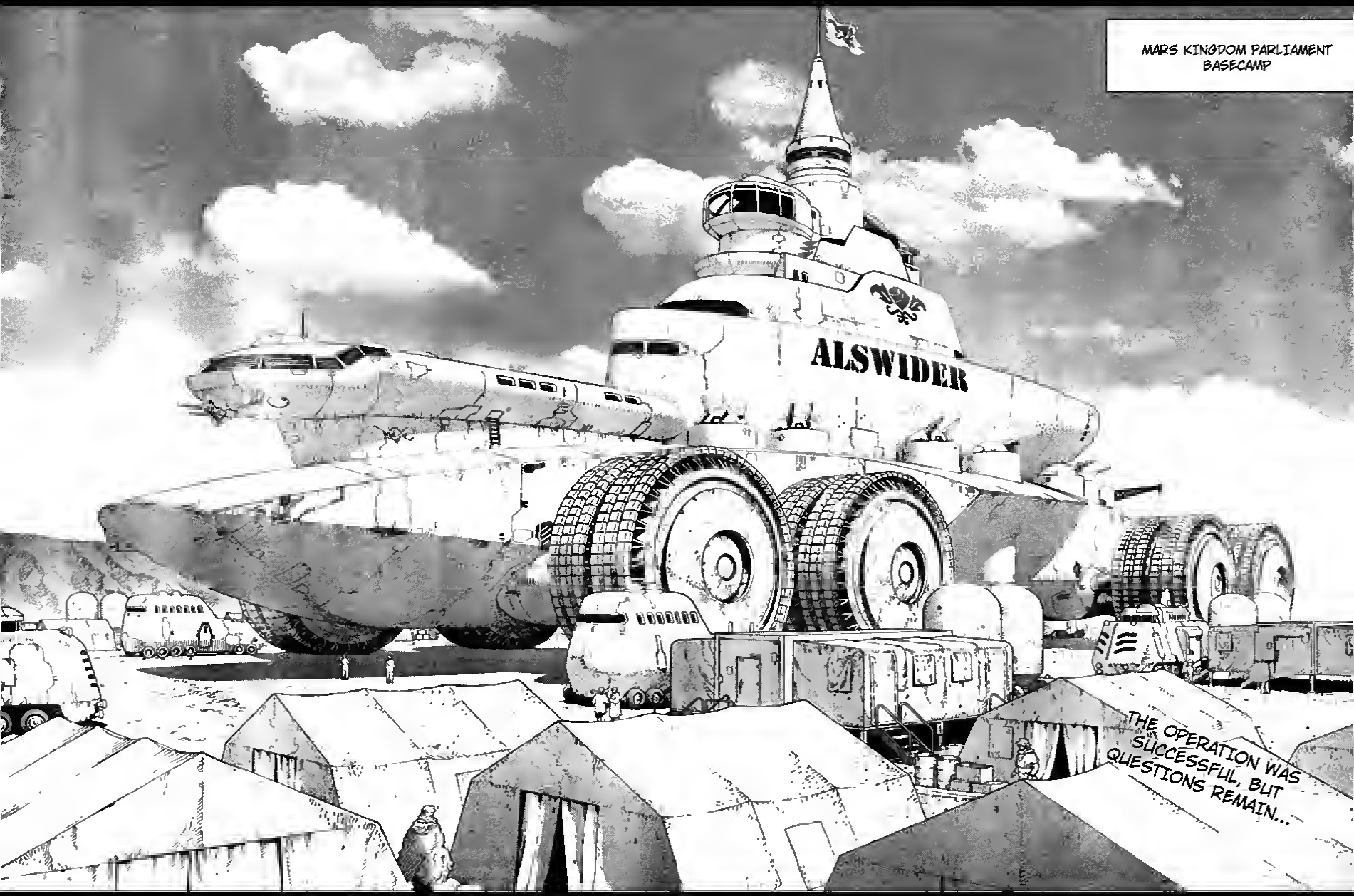
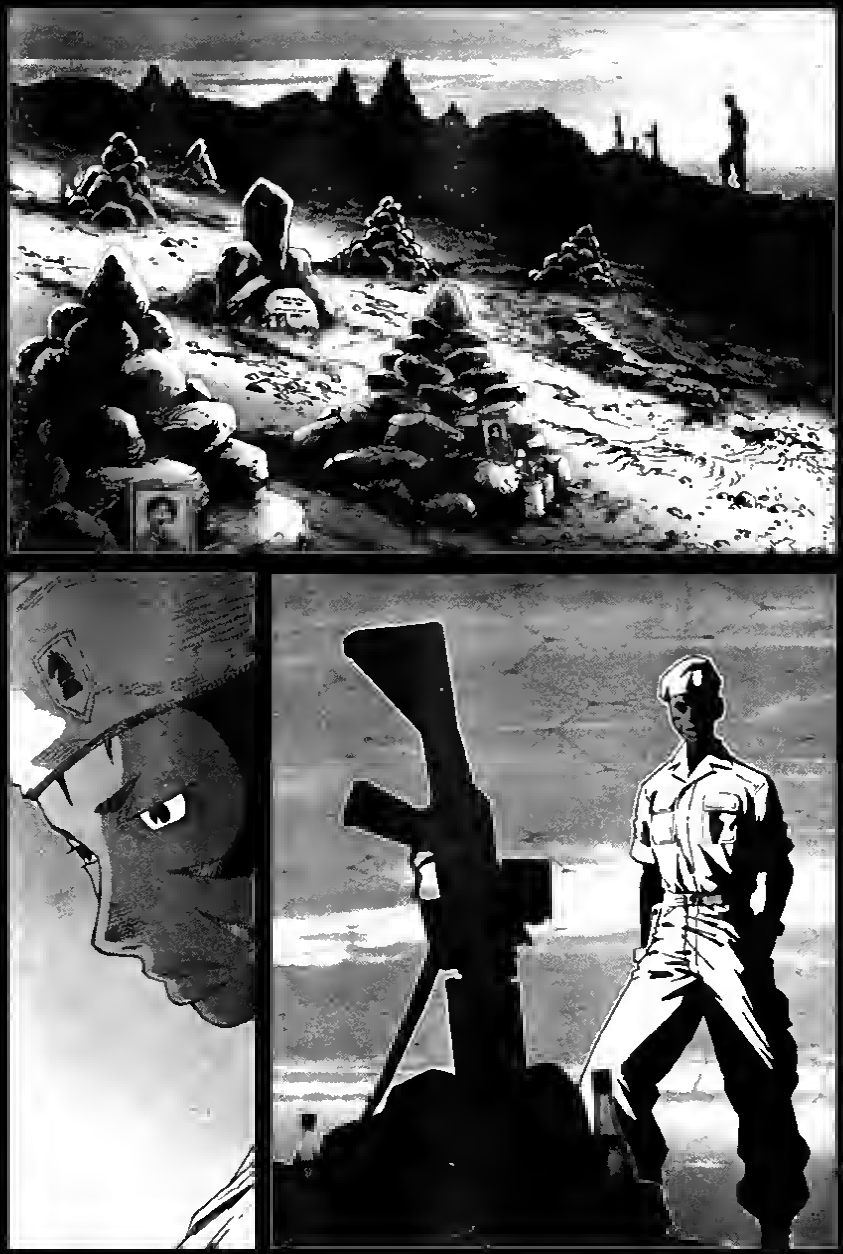
COUNTLESS BULLETS HAVE DRIVEN BACK THE ENEMY. EXCEPT FOR ONE WOMAN...
GUNNM
Last Order
銃夢
ラストオーダー
PHASE;89 CODENAME "FRAU X"


MARS KINGDOM PARLIAMENT
BASECAMP
ALSWIDER
THE OPERATION WAS SUCCESSFUL, BUT QUESTIONS REMAIN...

OPERATION HAGEL WAS A SUCCESS...
ZAZIE, YOU ARE THE ONLY ONE WHO SURVIVED THE ENCOUNTER WITH HER.
BUT WE SUFFERED HEAVY LOSSES
SPECIFICALLY, MORE THAN 30 ELITES WERE DESTROYED BY A SINGLE MYSTERIOUS SOLDIER... CODENAME FRAU X.
YOU... YOU'RE A KUNSTLER!!
ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA ZA
KATA KATA
FRAU X LEFT NO MATERIAL EVIDENCE.
FURTHERMORE, THE VOICES IN THE COMBAT LOGS WERE DISTORTED INTO NOISE..

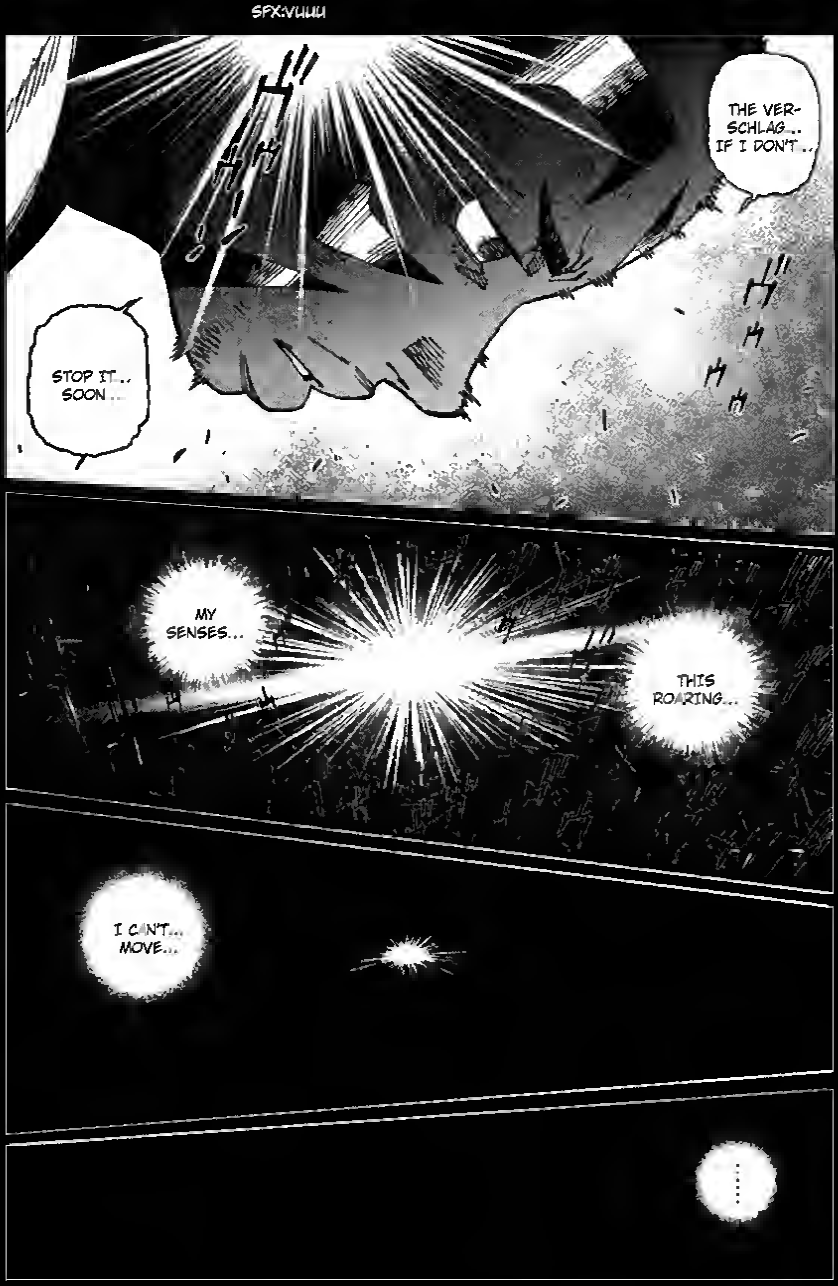
HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE ..?
THAT SHOELACE IS PART OF THE Q TEAM'S EQUIPMENT. NO SIGN OF EXTRA PROCESSING.
THE SECTION OF THE KNIFE WAS DESTROYED AT MOLECULAR LEVEL.
IT'S TIME FOR US TO REFRESH OUR KNOWLEDGE ABOUT PANZER KUNST!
THIS TECHNIQUE IS WELL KNOWN, BUT SUPPOSEDLY IT'S NO MORE THAN AN EXAGGERATED MYTH..
IT'S AN OUTDATED MARTIAL ART, LOST A LONG TIME AGO..
THE REALITY IS: AT PRESENT, WE CANNOT COUNTER IT IN CLOSE COMBAT'!
WE KNOW NOTHING ABOUT THE TRUE POWER OF PANZER KUNST..



...SOMETHING STILL BOTHERS ME AFTER ALL THIS.
LOSING MEN IS IMPOSSIBLE TO GET USED TO, ISN'T IT?
IN SPITE OF THE RISK OF LEAKING THE INFORMATION, SHE STILL LET ME LIVE...
SHE HAD HUNDREDS OF CHANCES TO KILL ME.
I FEEL LIKE I SHOULD TELL HER ABOUT THIS.
IT'S OBVIOUS THAT SHE KNOWS ALITA.
DON'T THINK ABOUT IT TOO MUCH, ZAZIE!
WELL... ISN'T THAT THE GRACE OF THE GOD OF WAR...?

SFX: VUUN
!!
ざざざ…
WHAT...?
VUUN
NO MISTAKE ...!!
WHERE...!?
WHERE IS IT HEADING...!?
VUUN
THAT SOUND... VERSCHLAG ...!!
SFX: VUUN
BAAA!
WHAT THE HELL .. THE BATTLE WAS 3 DAYS AGO .. WHY NOW!?

HERE!!
VUUN
WAKE UP!!
SFX. BANG
YOU ALMOST BLEW YOUR HEAD OFF!!


SFX:VUUU
THE VER-SCHLAG... IF I DON'T...
STOP IT... SOON...
SFX: VUUU
MY SENSES...
THIS ROARING...
I CAN'T... MOVE...
.....

SFX: BURU BURU
C-CAN YOU HEAR ME?
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
THE CAPTAIN IS AWAKE! DOCTOR!!
AH!
A WATER-BED?
I'M FINE.
SFX: TAPUN TAPUN

SFX: PUN PUN
CAPTAIN ZAZIE SURE HAS A CHARMED LIFE!
WHAT'D I SAY?
HERE'S A TOWEL.
DANKE...
WHY ARE YOU ALL WET?
REUBEN, CANARY?
WHAT HAPPENED WHILE I WAS OUT?

SFX: CLANK
A LITTLE ACCIDENT HAPPENED WHEN WE CARRIED YOU HERE.
KIRIRI
A LOT!!
VERSCHLAG... ACTUALLY, I DOUBTED IT, BUT IT'S REALLY A FEARSOME TECHNIQUE, ISN'T IT?
GG... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOUR ARM?
THIS WATERBED IS THE COUNTERMEASURE?
THE VERSCHLAG CAN SPREAD!?
タポン
SFX: TAPUN

A SINGLE PACKET OF SUCH A WAVE CARRIES AN AMOUNT OF ENERGY EQUAL TO A SMALL CALIBER HANDGUN BULLET. IF THE WAVE RESONATES WITH THE MATERIAL IT GOES THROUGH, IT CAN CAUSE MORE DAMAGE THAN THE ENERGY IT CARRIES.

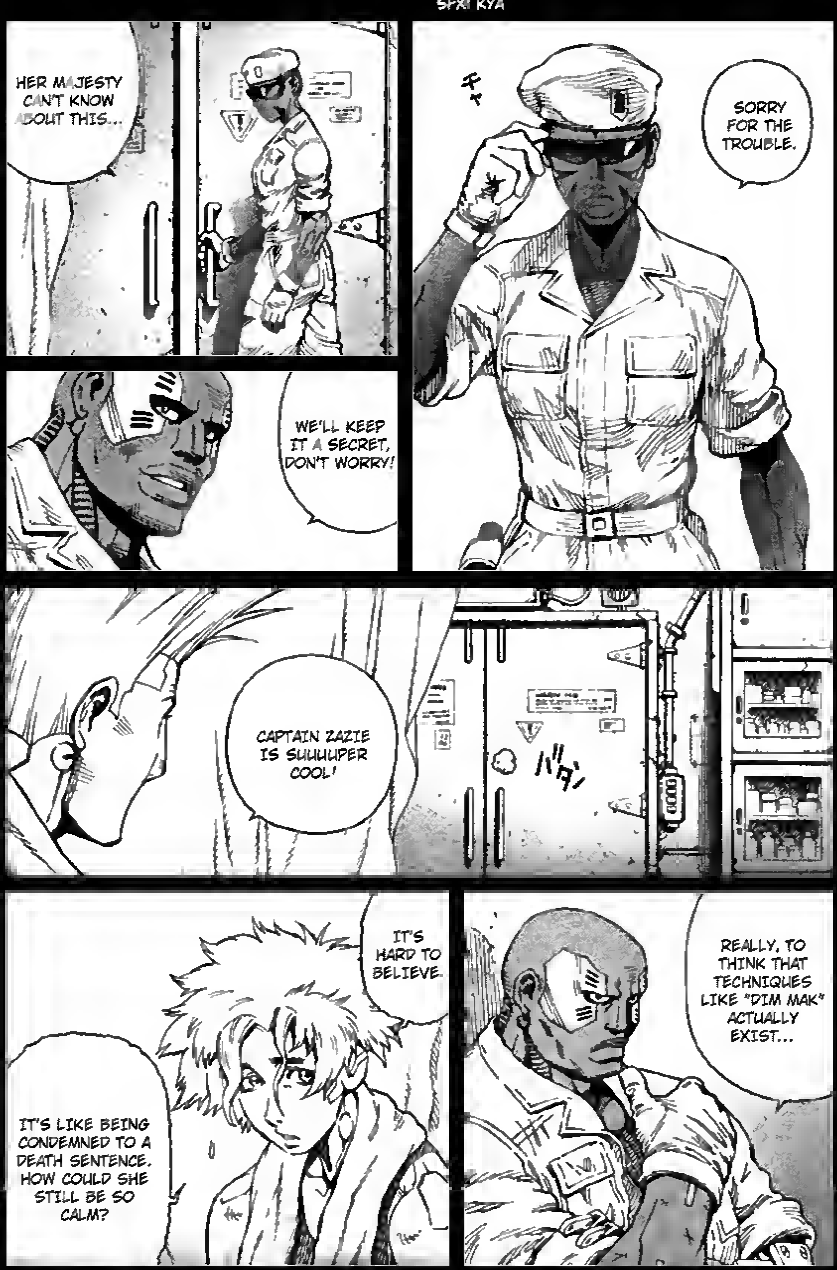
THE NATURE OF VERSCHLAG IS A KIND OF SOLITARY WAVE WITH A CERTAIN FREQUENCY AND A FINELY TUNED VECTOR.

SUCH SOLITARY WAVES WILL NOT WEAKEN AS TIME PASSES AND THERE ARE TENS OF THOUSANDS OF SUCH WAVES REPEATEDLY BOUNCING AROUND IN MY SKULL

...AN EXPLOSIVE ENERGY CONVERSION, BLOWING UP MY HEAD AND KILLING ME

THE DOCTOR SAID IN ONE MONTH THE WAVES WILL JOIN TOGETHER IN A CERTAIN AREA AND CAUSE...

THEN SOMEONE SUGGESTED THAT THEY INTRODUCE SOLITARY WAVES OF THE OPPOSITE PHASE TO CANCEL THEM OUT.
AT FIRST, THE DOCTORS TRIED TO OPEN THE SKULL HOPING IT WOULD RELEASE THE VERSCHLAG THAT WOULD THEN ALLOW THEM TO TRANSPLANT THE BRAIN TO ANOTHER BODY.
BUT THEN THEY REALIZED IT WOULD TAKE SEVERAL DECADES TO CALCULATE ALL THE VECTORS. ANOTHER FAILURE!
BUT IT FAILED! THE VERSCHLAG SPREAD TO THE OPERATOR AND INJURED HIM!
AS LONG AS THE EXPLOSION DOESN'T HARM OTHERS, THERE WON'T BE MUCH OF A PROBLEM
THE DOCTORS GAVE UP
IT'S JUST LIKE A BOOBY-TRAPPED TIME BOMB— IT'S MORE LIKE A JOB FOR THE BOMB SQUAD.

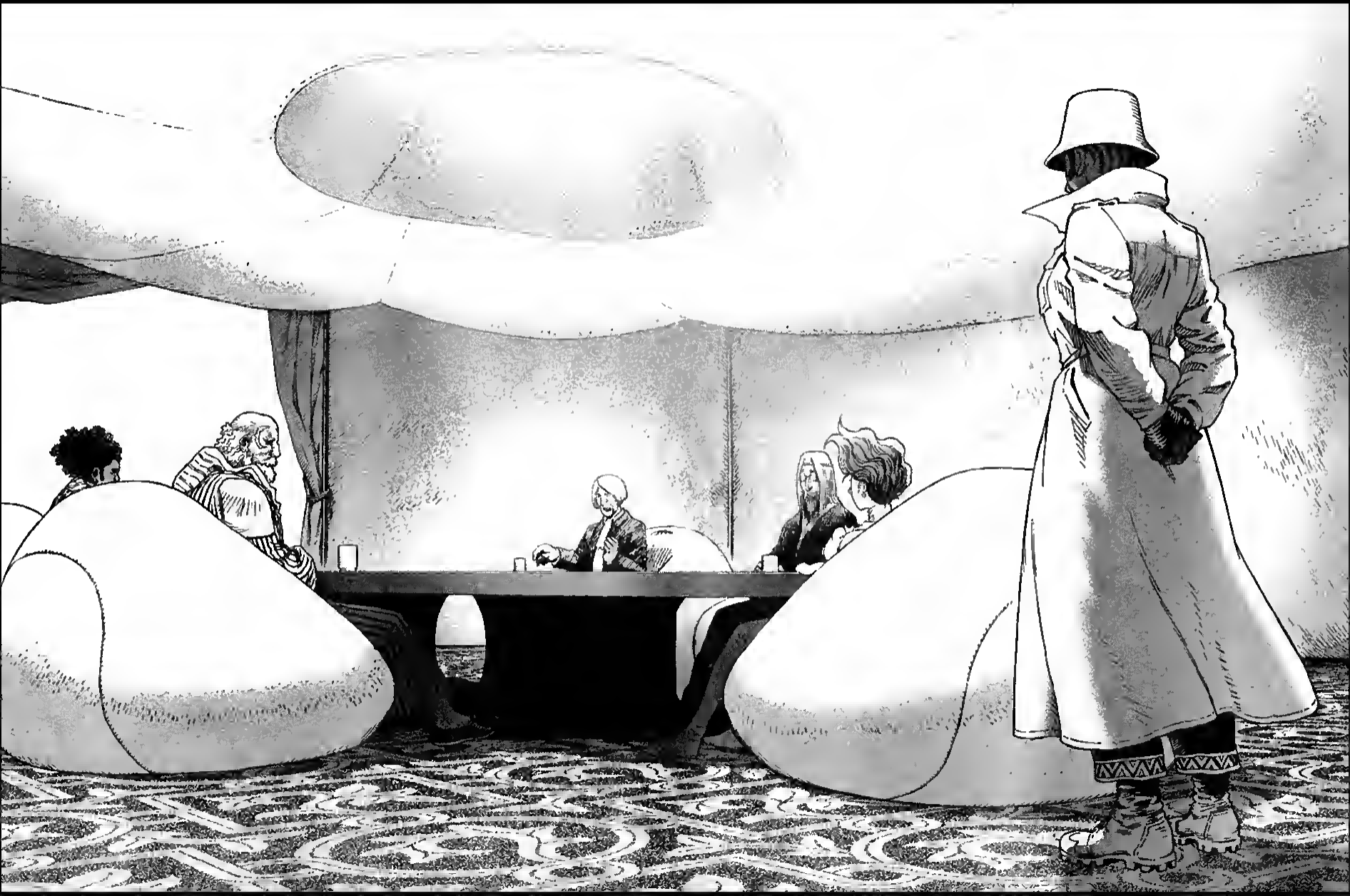

SFX: KYA
HER MAJESTY CAN'T KNOW ABOUT THIS...
SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE.
WE'LL KEEP IT A SECRET, DON'T WORRY!
CAPTAIN ZAZIE IS SUUUUPER COOL!
SFX: THUD
IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE.
IT'S LIKE BEING CONDEMNED TO A DEATH SENTENCE. HOW COULD SHE STILL BE SO CALM?
REALLY, TO THINK THAT TECHNIQUES LIKE "DIM MAK" ACTUALLY EXIST...

FOOTNOTE: DIM MAK...OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "THREE-YEAR MURDER" OR "DEATH TOUCH" IS A LEGENDARY DELAYED-ACTION KILLING TECHNIQUE FROM KARATE AND SOME STYLES OF CHINESE MARTIAL ARTS. IT WORKS ON THE SAME PRINCIPLES AS ACUPUNCTURE, ATTACKING THE BODY'S VITAL POINTS. IN 1975, J.F. GILBY IS SAID TO HAVE WITNESSED A DEMONSTRATION OF THE TECHNIQUE BY THE MARTIAL ARTIST HO SHIN YANG IN TAIWAN. THE MECHANISM BEHIND FRAU K'S TECHNIQUE IS VERY DIFFERENT.

WHY DIDN'T FRAU X KILL ZAZIE RIGHT AWAY..?
THIS IS ONLY MY THEORY, BUT...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT BY USING THIS DIM MAK-LIKE TECHNIQUE...
...SHE WANTED TO MAKE OUR COOL AND COLLECTED ZAZIE FEEL THE FULL TERROR OF HER APPROACHING DEATH IN ORDER TO UNDERMINE HER PRIDE?
CRACK
SFX: RUMBLE

MAN, THIS IS ANNOYING!
CLATTER
.....
IF WE LOOK AT IT THAT WAY, THIS IS LIKE A CONTEST...
FOR SOMEONE WHO CAN KILL DOZENS OF PEOPLE WITH NOTHING BUT A SHOELACE...
THIS SEEMS LIKE AN AWFULLY COMPLICATED WAY TO KILL ONE SOLDIER!

THE LOSER WILL BE FRAU X!!
WON'T WAVER OR CRUMBLE!



NOW NOW, CALM
MINISTER ORR.
WHEN I THINK
OF DEATH...
I HAVE NO FEAR.

DEATH IS PART OF A SOLDIER'S JOB.
BUT STILL...
...I HAVE SOME REGRETS...
THE [illegible] THAT NOT EVEN [illegible] COULD AFFECT IS [illegible] WILL THIS [illegible] DECISION BE?

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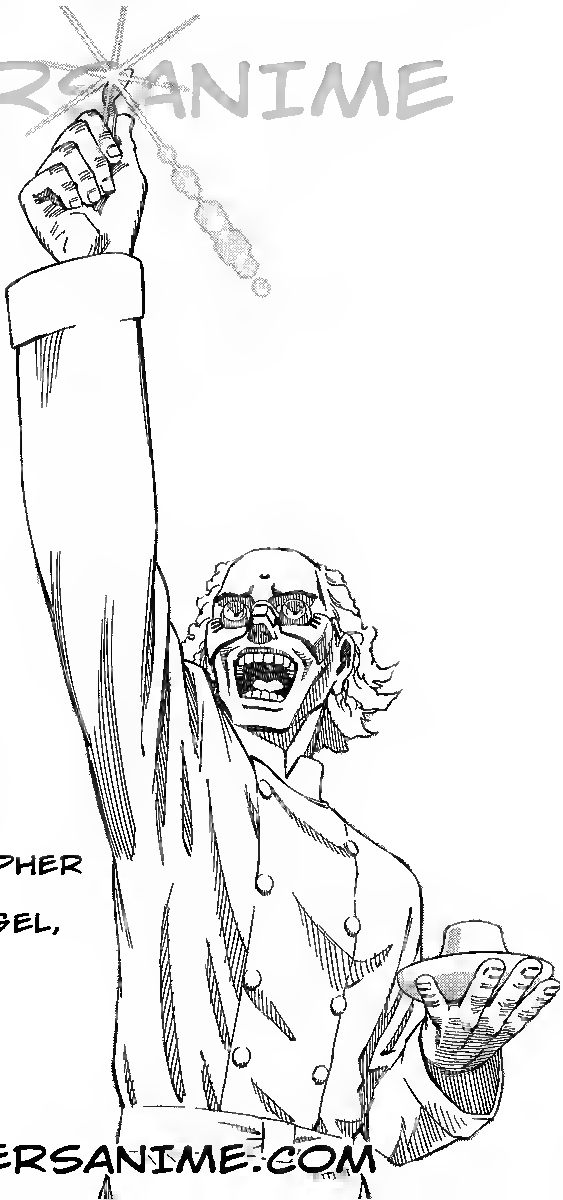

TRANSLATOR: TARGARYENX, CYPHER
TYPESETTING: CRAZYANKAN
PROOFREADERS: BURNING ANGEL, CAILON, SERGIO, AOD
CLEANERS: FADEDDREAMS

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